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SAYS CONTEMPT OF COURT IS OFFENSE AGAINST PUBLIC

WASHINGTON, November 23.—Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, the labor leaders, must again stand trial in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia on charges of contempt arising out of the Buck's Stove and Range case. Justice Wright today handed down a decision overruling the motion of the labor leaders for a dismissal of the proceedings under the statute of limitations.

Holding that the prosecution of a charge of contempt of court is not a criminal proceeding, and therefore not subject to the bar of the statute of limitation, which prevents prosecution of crimes on which indictment or information is not filed within three years of commission, Justice Wright of the District Supreme Court today decided that Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, labor leaders, must be tried on the contempt charges which stand against them. The court overruled the motion of the labor leaders to dismiss the proceedings for want of replication to their plea of the bar of the limitation statute.

The sections of the motion to dismiss in which they charge the court with "unreasonable delay" in presenting the charges of contempt are treated by the court as frivolous and without merit. "Nor does the court say that these paragraphs," said Justice White, "are not of an offensive and insolent nature, which would justify and perhaps ought to require the striking of them from the files."

Offending is Against Public. "Of the fallacy that alleged contemnors are contesting with judges, contemnors cannot too soon unload their minds," continued the justice, "for if charges of contempt are true the contest is against the supremacy of law. The duty and concern of judges is only that, for and in the name of the people, the supremacy of law shall be maintained."

Justice Wright also declined to accede entirely to the request of Gompers and his associates that if the case had to be heard the testimony be taken in open court and not by an examiner in the absence of the justice. When it is considered that such a method of hearing might result in the exclusion of evidence material to the questions involved, Justice Wright said, by the inability of the court's process to reach material witnesses, he felt obliged to refuse the request.

except as to witnesses voluntarily presented by the committee or the respondents before the court for oral examination.

Three Days to Agree.

Justice Wright allowed the respondents three days in which to agree with the committee of prosecutors upon the appointment of a suitable person to act as a commissioner to take the testimony.

The general term courtroom was crowded today with members of the bar and labor sympathizers when the six judges of the District Supreme Court, clothed in their flowing gowns, mounted the bench. Justice Wright, who delivered the opinion, carried the manuscript of the court's decision, which filled twenty-seven pages of typewriting. Justice Wright took his place in the center of the bench, usually occupied by the chief justice. Chief Justice Claiborne sat on his right and the other justices arranged themselves according to seniority.

Gompers Scores Court.

ATLANTA, Ga., November 23.—"Insofar as the people of this organization are concerned, Justice White is mentally incompetent to give a fair and impartial trial of the contempt proceedings against us."

President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, in convention here, made this declaration today when announcement was made on the convention floor that Justice Wright had today handed down a decision overruling the motion of Mr. Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison for a dismissal of the contempt proceeding arising out of the Buck Stove and Range case under the statute of limitations.

News of the court's decision reached the convention while the committee on laws and adjustment was making a report on the charges against the labor leaders in which discontent was voiced at their "unwarranted persecution."

Vice President John Mitchell declared he was sick of the whole matter and that he was anxious to have it ended.

"If we must go to jail," said Mr. Mitchell, "I want to have it over with. Under the present situation, I am afraid to accept a position for fear it will be abruptly terminated by an order of the court. Under the present circumstances the only job I can take is digging coal, and I am not anxious for that."

EGYPTIAN LEGEND OF OSIRIS

The legend of Osiris in Greek writers describes the murder of the God figuring all Egyptian burials, while the Egyptian monuments and texts widely record the festival and funeral rituals of Osirian worship in his many deific manifestations of life, light and judgment.

As god of the dead the high sanctuary of Osiris was at Abydos, the furthestmost west of the flaming boundary of Egypt and at the entrance to the underworld.

Abydos is reached from the railway at Balyana, about ten hours south of Cairo, where the Nile valley broadens fifteen miles from east to west, into a circle drawn by the Arabian and Libyan hills. The road one travels to Jay is a new one over the immemorial highway of pilgrimage through rich fields to the western edge of cultivation, marked by the cool palms of the lake-mirrored village of Beni Mansour and dusty-brown Arabat el Madfuna. Few places by night or day are more impressive than Abydos even now in the mystery of its luminous, ghostly multitudes, for here the earliest figures yet discerned in Egypt move, and that double city of This and Abydos appears dimly with its notable kings and their amazing arts. There, too, in the sand rising into the hills that lift the flint-armored Libyan desert begins the great necropolis, where in royal tombs these Kings were buried amid priceless flowery treasure of granite and alabaster.

As the devotion of Osiris increased, temple after temple arose at Abydos, fell into ruin, was restored, and vanished beneath a superseding pile. Useratesen III, the Amenemhats, Aahmes and the Thothmes are among the great builders and restorers at a time as long after the first dynasty as the years are numbered of the Christian era. The tomb of Zer, forgotten for a thousand years and remembered with gathered sanctities, was mistaken, as countless votive offerings show, for the tomb of Osiris itself.

In life the King was the presence of Osiris on earth, and in death he shared natural deification and adoration. Useratesen, Aahmes and other Kings lay here in royal state for a brief time after death, before they passed to their final resting place at Memphis, it might be, or in the Theban hills.

So great was the desire of every

Egyptian in his Osiride identification to be buried here, near his great lord god, that early graves were disturbed as the later dead pushed their covetous way into the sacred soil.

Still testifying to the long succession of sacred edifices are the temples of Seti I and Ramses II. Not elsewhere in Egypt has a temple greater charm than Seti's, nor are there many sculptures which exhibit more refinement of execution than its low translucent reliefs.

Since Mariette excavated the temple of Seti in 1859 many Egyptian archaeologists have been at Abydos, and following M. Amelineau at the royal tombs in 1896, the Egypt Exploration Fund, under the direction of Professor Petro, Professor Naville and others, has been almost continuously on the site.

FAMOUS WOMAN BREAKS ANKLE

NEW YORK, November 23.—Mrs. Ida Von Claussen, who once sued Theodore Roosevelt for a million dollars because she said he interfered with her social success at the court of Sweden, was unable to appear today before the commission appointed to investigate her sanity, because she broke her ankle trying to escape from the Bloomington Asylum.

Mrs. Von Claussen was sent to the asylum several weeks ago, after she had written to a supreme court justice who was trying her action to have her divorce case reopened, saying: "If your decisions are not in my favor, God help you."

It was learned today that several days ago she leaped from the window of her room. On account of her injury, the examination has been indefinitely postponed.

STUFFING THE BALLOT.

"That politician couldn't be honest if he tried," said Senator Sorghum. "What has he been doing?" "We arranged to take a straw vote in our community and we caught him sneaking around with a bale of hay,"—Washington Star.

LINGUIST LEARNS LANGUAGE OF LOVE



Miss Elizabeth S. Colton, master of fifty-four languages and reported to be the greatest linguist in the world, has now learned the language of love. Announcement has just been made at Northampton, Mass., of her engagement to David Brainerd Spooner, Ph. D., of India, who is likewise an adept in half a hundred tongues. Friends of Miss Colton in Northampton, in speculating on the courtship, are wondering how Dan Cupid got along without an interpreter.

THE BEGINNING OF MARK TWAIN'S LITERARY CAREER

In Harper's for December Albert Bigelow Paine, Mark Twain's authorized biographer, tells of the beginning of his literary career. Orion Clemens, Mark Twain's brother, owned a paper. He was compelled to go away to attempt to raise funds.

"In desperation he broke away and made a trip to Tennessee to see if something could not be realized on the land, leaving his brother Sam in charge of the office. It was a journey without financial results, yet it bore fruit, for it prompted the beginning of Mark Twain's literary career."

"Sam, in his brother's absence, concluded to edit the paper, in a way that would liven up the circulation. He had never done any writing—not for print—but he had the courage of his inclinations. His local items were of a red-pepper variety and his personal brought prompt demand for satisfaction. The editor of a rival paper had been in love, and was said to have gone to the river one night to drown himself. Sam gave a picturesque account of this with all the names connected with the affair. Then he took a couple of big wooden block letters, turned them upside down, and engraved illustrations for it, showing the victim wading out into the river with a stick to test the depth of the water. When that issue of the paper came out the demand for it was very large. The press had to be kept running steadily to supply copies. The satirized editor at first swore that he would trash the whole Journal office, then he left town and did not come back any more. The embryo Mark Twain also wrote a poem. It was addressed 'To Mary in Hannibal,' but the title was too long to be set in one column, so he left out all the letters in Hannibal except the first and the last, and supplied their place with a dash, with a startling result. Such were the early flickerings of a smouldering genius. Orion returned, remonstrated, and apologized. He reduced Sam to the ranks. In later years he saw his mistake.

"I could have distanced all competitors even then," he said, "if I had recognized Sam's ability and let him go ahead, merely keeping him from offending worthy persons."

CANNOT TELL SONS APART.

FORT WORTH, Tex., November 23.—John Cobb Harris, a wealthy farmer, came to Fort Worth yesterday to make a new will because he was unable to tell his twin sons apart. The will he destroyed gave John Harris certain properties and Cobb, the other twin, other realty. Harris divided his property just opposite to his own desires. John has requested tracts and not until Tuesday did he learn Cobb had sought the land.

Harris' sons are twenty-two years of age, stand six feet six inches and are muscular. With their hats on, their father cannot tell one from the other, but John is a little baldier than his brother. They are good-looking, dress alike and are always seen together.

The big twins keep a common bank account and always speak of "our money," "our horse" and even "our girl," for the young men have sweethearts and at times play a joke on the girls by exchanging them.

MARION'S PRAYER.

Marion's mother was ill, says the Chicago Record-Herald, and the aunt who took her place at the head of the household plied the children with unaccustomed and sometimes disliked articles of diet. One day, after being compelled to eat onions, Marion refused to say grace.

"Then you must sit at the table until you are ready to say it!" was the aunt's stern judgment. An hour or so later, when the brilliant sunshine and impatient calls of her comrades together comprised an irresistible appeal, Marion capitulated thus: "Oh, Lord, make me thankful for having had to eat horrid old onions if you can do it. But I know you can't."

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